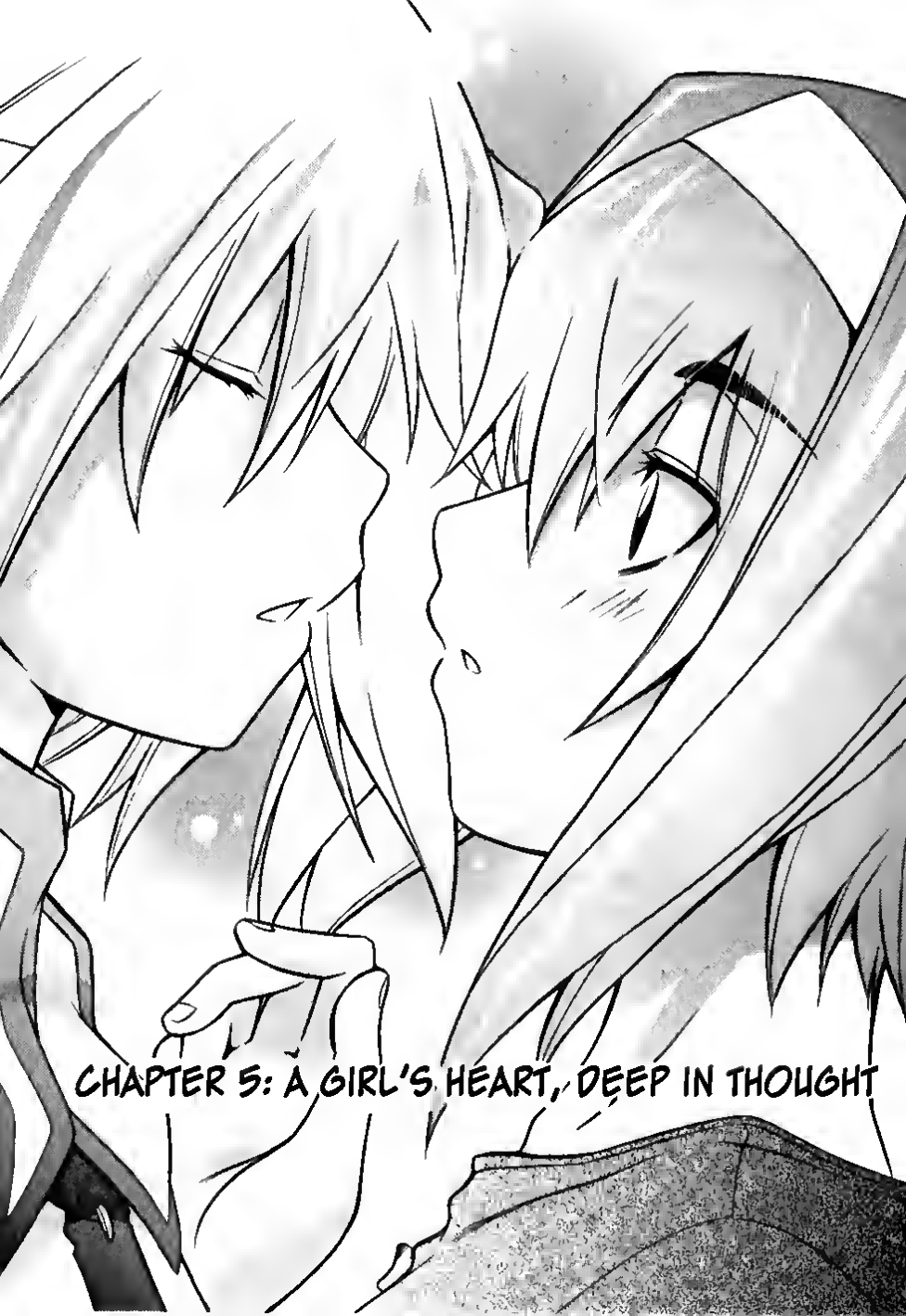

CHAPTER 5: A GIRL'S HEART, DEEP IN THOUGHT

I AM HUMBLED TO MEET YOU, OWNER.
...HUH?
I AM A SPORTS DRINK AKIKAN. MY NAME IS YELL.

I AM YOUNG AND INEXPERIENCED YET, BUT PLEASE TREAT ME WITH REGARD
...FOR BRINGING MY LIFE INTO THIS WORLD
I WOULD LIKE TO SINCERELY THANK YOU
Y...
A PERVERTED GIRL IN A CREEPY COSTUME STOLE MY FIRST KISS!!
YOU TOOK MY FIRST KISS!!
...?!

I'M NOT A PER-VERT...
EXCUSE ME... THAT'S NOT TRUE
GROSS! EWW!
ポィ ポィ
NOOO, STAY AWAY FROM ME, YOU PERV!
OW.

MOR-
ON!!
ぽ…
GH…
コイツ…
…
OWN-
ER…

U...M... NA-NA-JIMIN?
WH...WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU WHEN YOU WERE COMING BACK, NAJIMI...
HOLD ON! I'VE BEEN HERE THE WHOLE TIME!
WH?!
DID YOU DO SOMETHING TO NAJIMIN OUT THERE?!
.....
WHY WOULD I KNOW?!
THEN WHY IS NAJIMIN LIKE THIS?!

um... najimin
ran into a perverted lady...
HOW DARE THEY TOUCH HER?!
THEY WON'T GET AWAY WITH THIS!
NAJIMI! DID SHE...
LOOK LIKE THIS?

WHO'RE YOU CALLING A PERV...
I... I WAS KID-DING...
NA-JIMIN, WAIT ...!
!?
SHE'S DRUNK OFF THE CARBON-ATION...
Oohoo! Ahaha!
THIS SODA IS GREAT!

TENKUJI NAJIMI GETS DRUNK OFF OF CARBONATED DRINKS!!
炭酸
I DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW, BUT...
KO... KOCHI-KAZE! GET SOME WATER!
Hehehe~ Kakeru-chan, you taste good!
キャー
.....
MY OWNER HATES ME..
ニャ

Hey hey, Kakeru-chan, can you do something special for Najimi?
Well... I want you to go on a date with Najimi~
F-FINE! I WILL! STOP BITING MY HEAD!
...really?
OW!!
Ehehe, YAY! <3 I'm going on a date with my Kakeru-chan!
A date!
.....
HEY.. NAJIMI?
WAHHH! BUT I WANTED TO GIVE YOU MY FIRST KISS!
I DIDN'T WANT ANOTHER GIRL TO HAVE IT!
AGH. JUST DO WHAT-EVER YOU WANT.

SHE... DIDN'T WANT TO?
KO... KOCHI-KAZE?!
WAAAAAAAHHHHHH!
NAJIMIN REJECT-ED ME!!
SIGH... THAT WAS TIRING
JEEZ! WHAT THE HELL IS WRONG WITH YOU!?
KA... KAKERU-CHAN... I DON'T FEEL SO...
WOAH! WAIT! AHHH!

WHAT A GREAT VIEW
IF I HAD BINOCULARS, I COULD PROBABLY PEEK AT GIRLS... EHEHE.
MELON.

...JEEZ, THAT MORON.
SHE WENT AND RAN OFF, EVEN THOUGH SHE DOESN'T HAVE ANYWHERE TO GO..
鹿児島
みんか
THIS IS ALL KAKERU'S FAULT!
GH... LOOK AT WHAT I'VE BECOME...

WOAH! IT'S A GROUNDER TO INFIELD!
HE'S SLIDING IN HEADFIRST.. AND HE'S SAFE!!
OOH, BASE-BALL!
カキーン
KAKERU SHOULD GET A TV LIKE THIS.
WHAT A HUGE TV..
LOOKS LIKE HE GETS A BIG HUG FROM OUR MUSCLEGIRL MASCOT!
..WHY AM I THE ONE WHO'S WRONG?
I'M AN AKIKAN, SO...
はっ
……

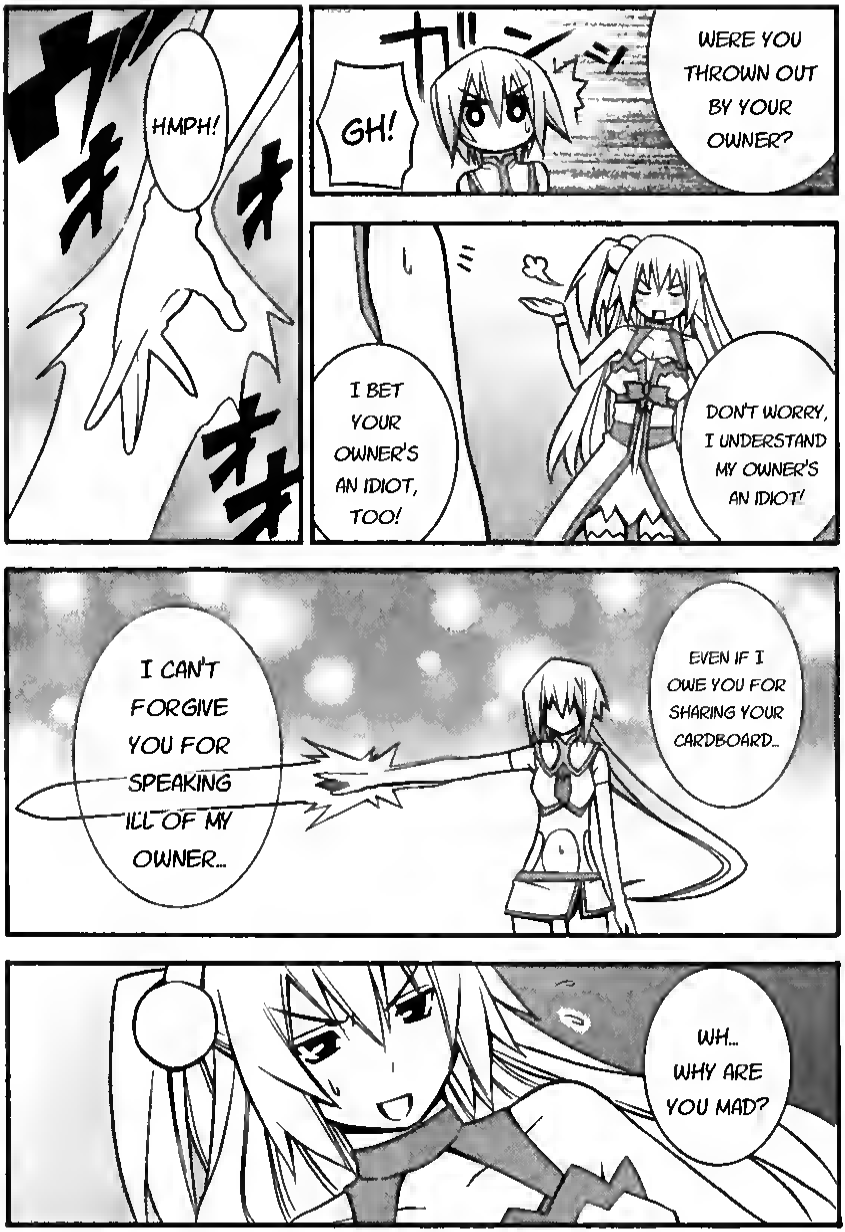
I HAD TO DO SOME-THING!
I...
I WAS BORN TO MAKE EVERYONE LOVE STEEL CANS...
SHE'S JUST LIKE YOU!
SHE THOUGHT CANS WERE PRECIOUS, TOO...
ゴゥ
ゴゥ

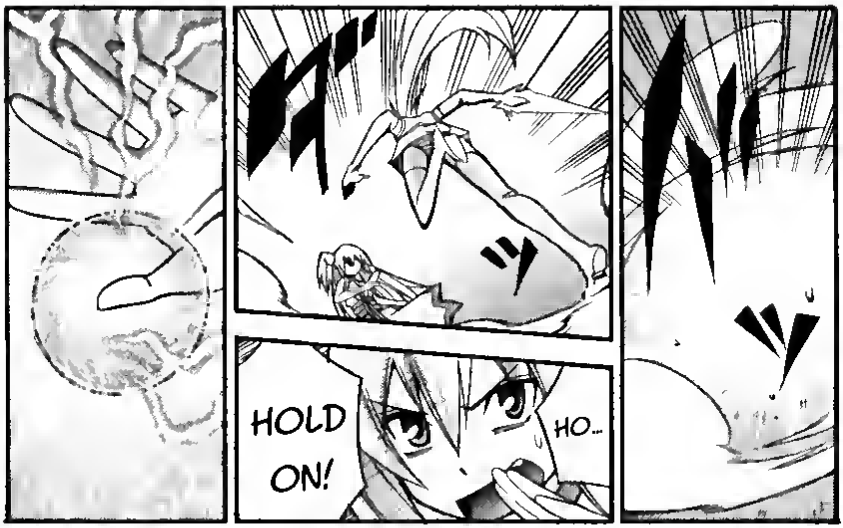
ピ
ガコン
だばぁ
プシュー
……
……
ニヤ！

...UMM.
EXCUSE ME...
WOULD YOU MIND SHARING YOUR BOX WITH ME? YOU DON'T HAVE TO...

WHEN YOU FOLD UP CARDBOARD LIKE THIS, YOU HAVE TO BE CAREFUL... OR IT'LL TEAR
I SEE
AND THAT A BLUE TARP WOULD BE GREAT ON A RAINY DAY LIKE THIS...
I HEARD ON TV...
ギュー
ッ
THAT CARDBOARD AND NEWSPAPERS ARE GOOD PROTECTION IF YOU LIVE ON THE STREET...
BE CAREFUL! IT'S DELICATE!!
OH!!
AH...
YES...?
...HEY...
I'M SORRY...
...HMM?
JEEZ... THIS IS PROBABLY WHY YOU'RE HOMELESS...

THAT PULL TAG ON YOUR EAR!
YOU'RE AN ALUMINUM CAN!
AND YOU'RE A STEEL CAN.
WH.. WHAT IS AN ALUMINUM CAN DOING OUT ON THE STREET?


HMPH!
GH!
WERE YOU THROWN OUT BY YOUR OWNER?
I BET YOUR OWNER'S AN IDIOT, TOO!
DON'T WORRY, I UNDERSTAND MY OWNER'S AN IDIOT!
I CAN'T FORGIVE YOU FOR SPEAKING ILL OF MY OWNER...
EVEN IF I OWE YOU FOR SHARING YOUR CARDBOARD...
WH... WHY ARE YOU MAD?

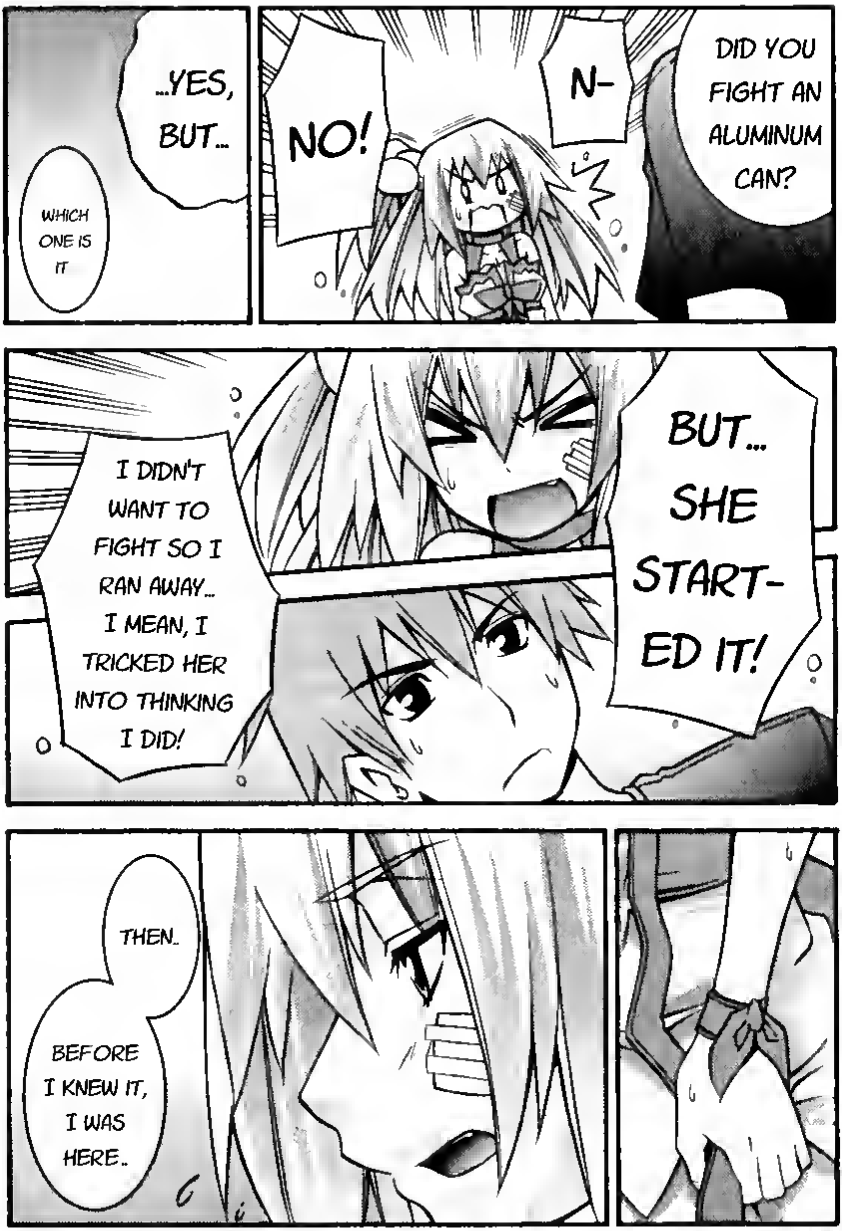

HOLD ON!
HO...

THIS IS WHY YOU WERE THROWN AWAY, RIGHT?
WE CAN'T FIGHT OUT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE STREET LIKE THIS!
I'VE BEEN THROWN OUT, TOO!
WH...
...SPEAK FOR YOUR OWN SELF!
I KNEW IT, ALUMINUM CANS REALLY ARE...
I KNEW IT, STEEL CANS REALLY ARE...
MY ENEMY!
菓子風子堂

IT'S BEEN SO LONG SINCE YOU INVITED ME OVER TO YOUR PLACE!
I'VE GOT TO, IF I DON'T, YOUR POOR SIDE CHARACTER WILL DISAPPEAR!
I'M A SIDE CHARA-CTER
HM?
ACTUALLY, YOU SHOULD GO HOME
WHA?! BUT.

.....
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE...?
WHY ARE YOU SLEEPING OUT HERE?!
AH!
はっ
...JEEZ.
ポリ
ポリ
KAKERU! I NEED MELON SODA!!

I DIDN'T COME BACK FOR YOU, EITHER!
I...I DIDN'T COME BACK BECAUSE I WANTED TO, OKAY?!
SHUT UP! YOU HAD A REASON FOR COMING BACK!
IT'S LIKE YOU WERE CUT BY A KNIFE... WHAT HAPP-ENED?
AND THAT INJURY...
A WEIRD WOMAN... SLICED ME.
AH...


...YES, BUT...
WHICH ONE IS IT
N-
NO!
DID YOU FIGHT AN ALUMINUM CAN?
I DIDN'T WANT TO FIGHT SO I RAN AWAY... I MEAN, I TRICKED HER INTO THINKING I DID!
BUT... SHE START-ED IT!
THEN...
BEFORE I KNEW IT, I WAS HERE..

I PARTI-CUIPATED IN THE AKIKAN ELECT!
HMPH! GO AHEAD AND GET MAD AT ME!
HEY... YOU KINDA SMELL.
SHUT UP!
I DON'T SMELL!
HEY, MELON.
WH-WHAT?!

PARTICIPATE IN THIS STUPID COMPETITION
LET'S...
YEAH... AND I'M SORRY FOR WANTING TO JOIN IN NOW.
WHAT... BUT YOU...
THAT'S WHY...
WE'RE GOING TO FIGHT THEM IN OUR OWN SPECIAL WAY!
..KAKERU
I REALIZE THAT EVEN IF YOU DON'T WANT TO FIGHT, AN ALUMINUM CAN WILL COME FOR YOU SOMEDAY...
BUT NOW THAT I SEE YOU GETTING HURT...

OKAY.
FIRST...
WE HAVE TO TALK TO THEM
WHAT IF IT DOESN'T WORK?
BUT...
WE'LL THINK OF WHAT TO DO WHEN THE TIME COMES!!
.....
IF IT DOESN'T WORK...
.....

WELL...
WE'VE CONTACTED THE LOST AKIKAN ALREADY, SO WE'LL BE TAKING OUR LEAVE NOW.
WE HOPE THAT YOU'LL PARTICIPATE IN THE AKIKAN ELECT.
ALSO... TAKE THIS RADAR IT CAN TRACK WHEN AN AKIKAN TRANSFORMS
OH. OKAY.
.....

THE AKIKAN ELECT...
...WHAT?

H...HUH?
MY ROOM...
IT'S SO
CLEAN...

DID...
YOU DO
THIS?
.....

AND... UM...
...YES...
CAN I CALL YOU... YELL-CHAN?
NAJIMI'S ALWAYS WANTED A MAID...
KAKERU-CHAN GETS MAD IF I LEAVE THINGS LYING AROUND...

OWNER?
YELL-CHAN...
YES?
THAT PULL TAG ON YOUR EAR...
DO ALL AKIKAN HAVE IT...?

ALUMINUM CANS HAVE THE ON THE RIGHT, AND STEEL CANS HAVE THEM ON THE LEFT
YES.
REALLY..
SO DOES THAT MEAN MELON-CHAN IS A...

akikan! chapter 5

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two more
chapters
to go!